(d) The Government received requests from the State Governments of Tamil Nadu, Andhra Pradesh and Orissa for locating Tsunami Warning System in these states. The decision to locate the Tsunami Early Warning Centre at the Indian National Centre for Ocean Information Services (INCOIS), Hyderabad was taken with a view to make optimal utilization of the facilities created at INCOIS for Satellite Oceanography and Statellite Communication etc. INCOIS is the agency of the Department of Ocean Development in-charge of guiding and coordinating research in the field of ocean information and providing services such as Potential Fishing Zone and Ocean State advisories.

Research Centre at Antarctica

†210. SHRI KRIPAL PARMAR:
SHRI SURENDRA LATH:

Will the Minister of OCEAN DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to establish a new research centre in Antarctica;

(b) the number of scientists working in these research centres at present;

(c) whether deaths have occurred due to very bad weather conditions since 1981 to till date;

(d) if so, the details thereof; yearwise;

(e) the amount of annual budget allocated for the research centre situated in Antarctica;

(f) whether Government propose to increase the budget and number of scientists for these centres; and

(g) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE DEPARTMENT OF OCEAN DEVELOPMENT (SHRI KAPIL SIBAL): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) At present the winter team consisting of nine scientists and sixteen logistics personnel is working at Maitri station. During summer around

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

30 more scientists join at Maitri station to carry out various scientific studies.

(c) and (d) No. Sir.

(e)The average annual budget for the maintenance of the infrastructure at Maitri station is Rs. 500.00 lakhs.

(f) and (g) Yes Sir. An additional amount of Rs. 800.00 lakhs have been provided for the proposed new station during the current financial year.

Problems faced by overseas Indians

211. DR. K. MALAISAMY: Will the OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) the major problems faced by overseas Indians in general and the gulf countries based Indians in particular;

(b) whether there has been a marked improvement in dealing with such problems after the creation of this new ministry or still there are lot of teething troubles;

(c) whether Government are aware that many of overseas Indians are ignorant of the right step taken by Government in offering dual citizenship facility to overseas Indians; and

(d) the measures taken or to be taken to make them known and to avail the facility?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF OVERSEAS INDIAN AFFAIRS (SHRI OSCAR FERNANDES): (a) The major problems faced by Overseas Indians in general concern overseas citizenship, incentives and facilities for investment, more flights at cheaper fares on Gulf sector, quota for their children in educational institutions, cheating and exploitation by recruiting agents and foreign employees, inhuman working conditions, change of contract on arrival, settlement of insurance claim etc. etc.

(b)Yes,

(c)No.

(d) Wide publicity has been given to the scheme of overseas citizenship through Indian Missions/Posts, MOIA & MHA's websites and Indian Associations.